

Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument

Update - May 2002

On April 24, 2002, the Notice of Intent to prepare the RMP/EIS (resource management plan/environmental impact statement) for the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument was printed in the Federal Register. This notice serves as the beginning of BLM's formal scoping process for the monument.

In the next few days, we'll be scheduling scoping open houses throughout north central Montana. We will not schedule any of these open houses sooner than 6 weeks from now, which will give us adequate time to inform everyone of the dates, locations and times for the open houses nearest them.

We'll work with our local media, and use additional updates, a more detailed newsletter, public speaking opportunities and personal contacts to invite everyone to participate in scoping.

If you can not make any of these open houses, don't worry. We'll be glad to accept written comments, e-mail comments or talk to you personally. Our intent is to provide frequent and equal opportunities for citizens to participate throughout this planning process.

I want to emphasize that we consider scoping to be a continuous process. We've worked hard since this designation to establish an open door policy which encourages all interests to contact us with ideas, concerns and comments.

Your comments helped us make needed revisions when we developed the State Director's Interim Guidance for managing this monument back in June 2001. We'll continue incorporating comments that are within the scope of this RMP/EIS as we (you and the BLM) define the issues to be addressed in this plan.

For more information on the monument, please visit our website at [/](#).

Sincerely,

Gary Slagel

Monument Manager

